

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNGA, SHUM

SUBJECT: 32ND GA: PROPOSAL FOR HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: USUN 1712

1. AS A FIRST STEP IN DEVELOPING A STRATEGY FOR GA
CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL FOR HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS, ORIGINALLY PUT FORWARD BY COSTA RICA, USUN SHOULD,
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, EXPLORE WITH COSTA RICAN PERMREP
RANGE OF STRATEGY AND TACTICS THAT WOULD BEST ENSURE A
SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME. WHILE SEEKING TO ELICIT IDEAS AND
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SUGGESTIONS FROM COSTA RICANS, YOU SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR
THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A STRONG EFFORT ON THIS ISSUE
BUT TO DO SO IN A MANNER ACCEPTABLE TO COSTA RICANS WHO,
WITH SWEDEN, WERE LEADERS OF EFFORT TO GET FAVORABLE
CONSIDERATION OF HIGH COMMISSIONER PROPOSAL AT 28TH
GA IN 1973.

2. WITH THIS IN MIND, YOUR DISCUSSION SHOULD COVER THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) WHAT STRATEGY ARE THE COSTA RICANS CONTEMPLATING AND WHAT IDEAS DO THEY HAVE FOR GETTING THE WIDEST POSSIBLE

GEOGRAPHIC SUPPORT BEFORE THE ITEM COMES UP FOR GA CONSIDERATION?

(B) AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN OUR COMBINED STRATEGY SHOULD BE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CORE GROUP IN NEW YORK TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON THE HIGH COMMISSIONER PROPOSAL AND TO BEGIN LOBBYING AMONG REGIONAL GROUPS.

(C) BEFORE DECIDING FINALLY ON THE COMPOSITION OF A CORE GROUP IT MAY BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WITH FAVORABLY-DISPOSED GOVERNMENTS TO TEST REACTIONS (E.G., BELGIUM, INDIA, SWEDEN, VENEZUELA, SENEGAL, GHANA, SRI LANKA). THE U.S. WOULD BE WILLING TO JOIN IN THIS EFFORT BY SENDING A HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE TO CERTAIN CAPITALS, AS AGREED UPON WITH THE COSTA RICANS AND PERHAPS WITH THE SWEDES, COSTA RICA'S ORIGINAL CO-SPONSORS. WE WOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO SEND THE SAME REPRESENTATIVE TO SAN JOSE TO DISCUSS OUR APPROACH WITH PRESIDENT ODUBER AND FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO.

(D) ONE POSSIBLE WAY TO GENERATE WIDE SUPPORT AMONG AFRO-ASIAN STATES WOULD BE TO SEEK TO ASSOCIATE A PROMINENT AND WELL-QUALIFIED AFRICAN WITH THE CONCEPT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A HIGH COMMISSIONER. DO THE COSTA RICANS HAVE ANY IDEAS ABOUT INDIVIDUAL AFRICANS OR AFRICAN STATES THAT MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN SUCH AN APPROACH (E.G., SEKYIAMA OF GHANA; M'BAYE OF SENEGAL)? CHRISTOPHER

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